

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

- 1, (currently amended): A method of determining a psychological stress level in a human, the method comprising with measurement means, measuring the level of one or more isoprostanes in a biological sample derived from the human by measuring the level of one or more antibodies and/or antibody fragments directed thereto, wherein the one or more fluids is or are selected from the group consisting of urine, blood, tears, sweat and saliva corresponding to each human, and calculating the psychological stress level from said measured isoprostane level by determining statistically greater isoprostane levels compared with the measured average isoprostane level obtained from a control group assessed to have low psychological stress.
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (currently amended): The method of claim [[4]] [1], wherein said psychological stress is associated with one or more conditions selected from the group comprising clinical depression, post traumatic stress disorder, chronic fatigue syndrome and ME.

6. (currently amended): The method of claim [[4]] [1], wherein said one or more isoprostanes when measured in urine comprises 2,3-dinor-8-isoprostaglandin F_{1α} and/or a racemic diastereoisomer thereof.
7. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more isoprostane is an F₂-isoprostane.
8. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more isoprostane is a 8-F₂-IsoP and/or a racemic diastereoisomer thereof.
9. (new): The method of claim 1 wherein the control group is assessed to have low psychological stress utilizing a perceived stress scale questionnaire.
- 10.(new): A method of identifying individuals having high pyschological stress levels in a population of individuals said method comprising the steps of:
 - i) selecting a population of individuals,
 - ii) determining a perceived stress scale score for each individual by administering a perceived stress scale questionnaire,
 - iii) determining in each individual the level of one or more isoprostanes in a biological sample derived from the individual by measuring the level of one or more antibodies and/or antibody fragments directed thereto, wherein the one or more fluids is or are selected from the group consisting of urine, blood, tears, sweat and saliva,
 - iv) identifying individuals with high psychological stress by determining whether the levels of the one or more isoprostanes measured for the individual in step iii) is significantly greater by a statistical criteria than the mean value of the one or more isoprostanes for a subpopulation having a perceived stress scale score as measured in step ii) that is less than the medium stress scale score for the population.